

**P-20 Council Meeting**  
**March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016**  
**12pm – 4pm**  
**Northern Illinois University Alumni & Visitors' Center**  
*231 N. Annie Glidden, DeKalb, IL*  
*Conference Line: 888-494-4032*  
*Access Code: 4218176480#*

Minutes

NIU: Roger Eddy, Janet Holt, Erika Hunt, Madelyn James, Sylvia Jenkin, Dave Lowitzki, Melissa Mitchell, Robin Steans, Gary Tipsord, Jose Torres, Laurel Prussing, Beth Purvis, Jane Russell, Audrey Soglin, Beth Swanson, Kelley Washington, Eric Zarnikow

Phone: Kim Lightford, Dea Meyer, John Rico, and Sharon Thomas Parrott

**I. Welcome and Introduction to Regional P-20 Network Partners – Birth to Third Grade Initiative**

Council Chair Beth Purvis welcome council members and introduced Northern Illinois University's President Doug Baker. President Baker explained that the Northern Regional P-20 Network collaborates to increase college and career success for students through regional action toward the 60 by 25 goal. Birth to grade 3 initiatives include collecting a regional inventory of programs and services, building on existing inventories; conduct data analysis and research in areas recommended by work group as a first step to identifying gaps and building bridges; and provide ongoing opportunities for networking and professional development of B-3 providers.

President Baker then introduced Dr. Ehren Jarrett, Superintendent of Rockford Public Schools and Paul Logli, CEO of Rock River Valley United Way. Superintendent Jarrett explained that his district has 46 schools with 28,650 students, the majority of whom come from low income backgrounds. Rockford is currently working with the individuals and businesses in the community, NIU, and the United Way. Paul Logli then talked about ways that school districts and their surround communities have created initiatives that promote students to attend school such as solutions like the "Walking School Bus" which has assigned adults from the community to walk children to and from school and the "Strong Neighborhood House" where police officers use a house in the neighborhood as an office which makes the neighborhood safer and can deter or shut down any nearby drug houses.

**II. Illinois School Leader Advisory Council Strategic Plan**

Before moving on to the next presenter, Council Chair Purvis took the time to outline the purpose of this P-20 Council meeting which included talking about ESSA and what that means for us throughout the state; accountability and the Children's Cabinet ; and how is Illinois, as a state, being strategic and meeting the needs of the state's children.

Diane Rutledge from LUDA talked about how the Illinois School Leadership Advisory Council (ISLAC) has been working to put together a strategic plan on how to implement the work that has been done across the state. ISLAC decided to have a School Leader Focus because there has been research on the importance of school leaders in regards to success in the classroom. Rutledge recommends that a network of collaboration among district-level practitioners, program faculty, researchers, and policy makers is needed for these Preparation Programs to succeed. Possible recommended leaders for this initiative include the P-20 Council, the Governor's Office, the Illinois Board of Higher Education, the Illinois State Board of Education, Professional Organizations, Institutions of Higher Education, School Districts, Regional Offices of Education, Philanthropic Foundations, and the Office of School Leadership.

Members of the P-20 council suggested possibly having follow-up opportunities for members to look more at ISLAC strategic plan. Council members then continued to have a talk about leadership diversity efforts and possible areas that the P-20 council would like to take a look at for future council meetings.

**III. Bellwether Report and Panel on Teacher Diversity, Supply, Retention, and Migration**

Members from Bellwether Education Partners, Chad Aldeman, Leslie Kan, and Melissa Steel King, gave a presentation on teacher diversity, supply, retention, and migration in the state of Illinois. According to the group, teacher hiring rates fluctuate but remain within a relatively small area. They also found that Illinois' educator workforce does not align with the racial demographics of its students, and those disparities are not improving. Bellwether also looked at what top five Illinois schools are producing the highest number of educator workforce in the state. For a fuller understanding of these teachers and their career pathways, Bellwether recommended possible next steps being creating unique ID codes for individual teachers and schools.

**IV. Changes from Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)**

Jason Helfer from ISBE and Ben Boer from Advance Illinois then talked about the ESSA and what it meant for the state of Illinois and its goals for education reform. The ESSA supports many of the state's existing efforts to serve all students, especially our most vulnerable. Helfer and Boer also explained that for the state, the ESSA highlighted important issues such as funding, accountability, standards, and assessments, early learning, support of vulnerable students, and the future modifications of existing state law or regulations to align with ESSA.

**V. Presentation on the Governor's Cabinet for Children and Youth**

Council Chair Purvis then took time to talk about the Governor's Cabinet for Children and Youth. The Children's Cabinet started after looking at what other states were doing to look at a big vision for children's overall success. With 16 agencies and 185 councils,

the Governor's office wanted to create an integrated pipeline for children and youth in the state. It is the hope to have the Governor hold the heads of the 16 agencies and members of the Governor's staff (the Secretary of Education, Lieutenant Governor, the head of GOMB, and the head of DOITT) responsible to the goals of children and youth in the state being safe, healthy, and successful. Council Chair Purvis also asked the P-20 council members to raise issues to the Children's Cabinet that may be a little difficult for the Cabinet to bring up themselves. The Children's Cabinet will meet up 4 times a year and the first meeting will be open to the public in Springfield on March 10<sup>th</sup>.

## **VI. Subcommittee Updates**

### **a. *Teacher and Leadership Effectiveness***

The committee currently has a dual credit survey for high school teachers and administrators going out and they are receiving good responses as well as working with multiple stakeholders. One question they are trying to look at is how to provide incentive for teachers to get their Masters degrees. The committee also did another survey about teacher leadership such as what roles are important and what do people think are needed to make schools successful. This leads to looking at what teacher preparation programs are producing versus what is needed.

### **b. *Data, Assessment, and Accountability***

The committee had a robust meeting on Feb 23rd, 2016 that covered a variety of topics that relate to some of the things that were talked about during this meeting's presentations. ISBE also provided an update on the PARCC exam and the committee is also looking to see if there are ways to provide background so that people, specifically parents, understand the difference between PARCC and previous assessments.

### **c. *College and Career Readiness***

The committee has talked about work in related to House Resolution 477 and is looking to establish a college and career framework. On March 17<sup>th</sup> they will be discussing the recent House Bill from 9-11am at the Thompson Center in Chicago.

### **d. *ISAC – MAP Update***

Executive director, Eric Zarnikow gave an update on what's going on with MAP funding. Currently, we have overlapping fiscal years with concerns about what will be done if there's not a budget for FY16. FY17 has begun the boarding cycle for students who have started filling out their FAFSA with March 9<sup>th</sup> being the last day to turn in FAFSA to be put on the queue for MAP. There has been a drop in MAP eligibility but it's not quite sure if the reasons students dropped out are specific to the MAP grant or not.

## **VII. Adjourn**